(c) if so, the time by which the Commission is likely to give its report containing the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The National Human Rights Commission decided to undertake a detailed examination of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 on the basis of a petition received expressly on the matter. The Commission has called for the comments from the concerned Ministries for detailed examination/recommendations.

(b) The Commission has received a few complaints regarding Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958.

(c) The Commission has undertaken detailed examination of the Act and only after the examination is over, report/recommendation can be given.

Illegal Activities on Border

688. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons arrested on the Indo-Pak border in Gujarat and Rajasthan for illegal activities during the last two years;

(b) whether the Government are aware of increasing activities of the Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) in these areas recently;

(c) if so, any assessment has been made in this regard; and

(d) the details of additional companies of para-military forces provided by the Union Government to these States to effectively tackle the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Number of Persons arrested on Indo-Pak Border in Gujarat and Rajasthan for illegal activities are as under :

	1995	1996 (upto 18th November, '96)
Rajasthan	1662	903
Gujarat	72	226

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Assessment is being made from timt to time and necessary remedial measures are being taken.

(d) In order to tackle the situation effectively Five additional battalions of BSF were raise during 1994-95 and deployed on the Rajasthan and Gujarat border.

Support Prices of Agricultural Products

689. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the rate of increase in the support prices of various agricultural products for the period from 1992-96, crop-wise;

(b) the rate of increase in the support price of copra for the said period;

(c) whether the support price of copra had not been revised corresponding to the increase in the support price of other agricultural products, and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) A statement showing the Minimum Support Prices alongwith increase effected, crop-wise, of various agricultural commodities including copra for the period from 1992-93 to 1996-97 is enclosed.

(c) and (d) The CACP in its report of Price Policy for Copra for 1996 season recommended that the Minimum Support Price for both milling copra and ball copra be not announced and requisite price support to the growers be provided through market intervention/ open market purchases of copra by the designated Central and State agencies during the peak marketing period of the 1996 season. However, keeping in view the interest of copra growers, the Government decided to continue procurement of copra at the MSP announced for 1995, i.e. for ball copra of fair average quality (FAQ) at Rs. 2725 per quintal and for milling copra of fair average quality (FAQ) at Rs. 2500 per quintal.

STATEMENT

Minimum Support Prices

(Rs. per quintal)

Crop	Variety	Quality	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Paddy	Common	FAQ	270 (17.4)	310 (14.8)	340 (9.7)	360 (5.9)	380 (5.6)
Price Differential	Fine & S.F.		10.00	20.00	20.00	15.00	15.00-20.00
Jowar			240 (17.1)	260 (8.3)	280 (7.7)	300 (7.1)	310 (3.3)
Bajra			240 (17.1)	260 (8.3)	280 (7.7)	300 (7.1)	310 (3.3)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Maize			245 (16.7)	265 (8.2)	290 (9.4)	310 (6.9)	320 (3.2)
Ragi			240 (17.1)	260 (8.3)	280 (7.7)	300 (7.1)	310 (3.3)
Wheat			330 @ (20.0)	350 (6.1)	360 (2.9)	380 (5.6)	415 (9.2)
Barley			260 (23.8)	275 (5.8)	285 (3.6)	295 (3.5)	305 (3.4)
Tur (Arhar)			640 (17.4)	700 (9.4)	760 (8.6)	800 (5.3)	840 (5.0)
Moong			540 (17.4)	700 (9.4)	760 (8.4)	800 (5.3)	840 (5.0)
Urad			640 (17.4)	700 (9.4)	760 (8.6)	800 (5.3)	840 (5.0)
Gram			600 (20.0)	640 (6.7)	670 (4.7)	700 (4.5)	740 (5.7)
Groundnut-in-shell			750 (16.3)	800 (6.7)	860 (7.5)	900 (4.7)	920 (2.2)
Soyabean	Black		475 (20.3)	525 (10.5)	570 (8.6)	600 (5.3)	620 (3.3)
	Yellow		525 (18.0)	580 (10.5)	650 (12.1)	680 (4.6)	700 (2.9)
Sunflowers sead			800 (19.4)	850 (6.3)	900 (5.9)	950 (5.6)	960 (1.1)
Rape and Mustard			760 (13.4)	810 (6.6)	830 (2.5)	860 (3.6)	890 (3.5)
Toria			725 (12.4)	780 (7.6)	800 (2.6)	825 (3.1)	
Safflower			720 (12.5)	760 (5.6)	780 (2.6)	800 (2.6)	830 (3.8)
Cotton	F-414/H-777		800 (15.1)	900 (12.5)	1000 (11.1)	1150 (15.0)	1180 (2.6)
	H-4		950 (13.1)	1050 (10.5)	1200 (14.3)	1350 (12.5)	1380 (2.2)
Jute	W-5 in Assam		400 + (16.7)	450 + (12.5)	470 + (4.4)	490 + (4.3)	510 + (4.1)
Sugarcane #			31.00 (19.2)	34.50 (11.3)	39.10 (13.3)	42.50 (8.7)	
Tobacco (VFC)	Black Soil	F2 Grade	16.00 (8.5)	18.00 (12.5)	18.50 (2.8)	19.00 (2.7)	19.00 (-)
(Rs. per kg.)	Light Soil	L2	17.50 (19.4)	20.00 (14.3)	21.00 (5.0)	21.50 (2.4)	22.00 (2.3)
Copra	Milling	FA3	N.A.	2150 $	2350 $ (9.3)	2500 $ (6.4)	2500 $ (-)
	Ball		N.A.	2350 $	2575 $ (9.6)	2725 $ (15.8)	2725 $ (-)
Sesamum		FAQ				850	870 (2.4)
Niger Seed		FAQ				700	720 (2.9)

\# For a basic recovery of 8.5% with a proportionate premium of every 0.1% increase above that level

\+ - TD-5 in Nowgong Assam.

N.A. - Not Announced

St - Steady

@ - including Central Bonus of Rs. 25.00 per quintal

$ - For calender years 1992, 1993, 1994,1995 and 1996 respectively

Note (1) Figures in Brackets are the Percentage Increase in Production/Minimum Support Prices over the Previous Years

(2) From 1991-92 figures relate to Minimum Support Prices.

[Translation]

Cess on Sugar

690. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount collected as cess on sugar and transferred to the Sugar Development Fund till date;

(b) whether funds had also been distributed therefrom;

(c) if so, the number of sugar factories advanced loan from this fund during 1994-95 and 1995-96, State-wise;

(d) the amount disbursed during the said period, State-wise; and

(e) the number of applications still pending alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) The total amount collected as cess on Sugar (upto Aug., 1996) was Rs. 1871.50 Crores and an amount of Rs. 1656.00 crores has been transferred to SDF.